

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 13 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 3,854,588 to Kinard. Specifically, the Examiner stated, in reference to Kinard: "The hook formation is tensionable by an over center locking lever (8) connected thereto, which, when tensioned, will tightly clamp the stand to the surface." Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Kinard item 8 is sleeve. "A sleeve is brazed on to each of the mounting bars 7 at the end opposite from the support bar 6. The other end of the sleeve is tapped and an L-shaped bolt 9 is threaded into the sleeve." Kinard, column 2, lines 39 to 43.

Claim 13 defines, in part, an equipment support stand including a plurality of clamps which incorporate a hook formation, the hook formation being tensionable by an over center locking lever connected thereto which, when tensioned, will tightly clamp the stand to the surface. Kinard fails to teach or suggest such an over center locking lever.

The allowance and passage to issue of Claim 13 is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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